



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:	) P. & S. Docket No. D- 971-0038
	)
Allied Food Group, Inc.	)
and Moez Ghermezian	)
	)
Respondents	) Decision

This proceeding was instituted under the Packers and Stockyards Act (7 U.S.C. § 181 et seq.), by a Complaint and Notice of Hearing filed by the Acting Deputy Administrator, Packers and Stockyards Programs, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, alleging that the respondents wilfully violated the Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder (9 C.F.R. § 201.1 et seq.). This decision is entered pursuant to the consent decision provisions of the Rules of Practice applicable to this proceeding (7 C.F.R. § 1.138).

The respondents admit the jurisdictional allegations in paragraph I of the Complaint and Notice of Hearing and specifically admit that the Secretary has jurisdiction in this matter, neither admit nor deny the remaining allegations, waive oral hearing and further procedure, and consent and agree, for the purpose of settling this proceeding and for such purpose only, to the entry of this decision.

The complainant agrees to the entry of this decision.

## Findings of Fact

1. Allied Food Group, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the corporate respondent, is a corporation incorporated and doing business in the State of Iowa, and whose mailing address is 826 Main Street, Boyden, IA 51234.

- 2. The corporate respondent is, and at all times material herein was:
- (a) Engaged in the business of buying livestock in commerce for the purpose of slaughter; and its average annual purchases of livestock exceed \$500,000.
  - (b) A packer within the meaning of and subject to the provisions of the Act.
- 3. Moez Ghermezian, hereinaster referred to as the individual respondent, is an individual whose mailing address is 826 Main Street, Boyden, IA 51234.
  - 4. The individual respondent is, and at all times material herein was:
    - (a) President of the corporate respondent,
    - (b) Owner of the corporate respondent;
- (c) Responsible for the management, direction and control of the corporate respondent; and
- (d) The <u>alter ego</u> of the corporate respondent and a packer within the meaning of and subject to the provisions of the Act.

### Conclusions

Respondents having admitted the jurisdictional facts and the parties having agreed to the entry of this decision, such decision will be entered.

### **Order**

Respondent Allied Food Group, Inc., its officers, directors, agents and employees, successors and assigns, directly or indirectly through any corporate or other device, and respondent Moez Ghermezian, his agents and employees, directly or indirectly through any corporate or other device, in connection with his operations subject to the Packers and Stockyards Act, shall cease and desist from engaging in business in any capacity for which bonding is required under the Packers

and Stockyards Act, as amended and supplemented, and the regulations, without filing and maintaining an adequate bond or its equivalent, as required by the Act and the regulations.

In accordance with section 203(b) of the Act (7 U.S.C. § 193(b)), respondents are jointly and severally assessed a civil penalty in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500).

This order shall have the same force and effect as if entered after full hearing and shall be effective on the first day after service of this decision on the respondents.

Copies of this decision shall be served upon the parties.

ALLIED FOOD GROUP, INC.

Title Respondent

MOEZ GHERMEZIAN

Respondent

MARY HOBBIE

Attorney for Complainant

Issued this **26** day of **1997** 

Administrative Law Judge